

Decision making into local planning  
NOAA SARP webinar, January 15, 2014



# Community Stormwater Response to a Changing Landscape and Climate:

---

Willems et al., 2012

“...Need more studies to evaluate the climate change – infrastructure response at the urban watershed/pipe-scale”

---



SYNTECTIC  
INTERNATIONAL

**STRATUS** CONSULTING

ANTIOCH  
UNIVERSITY  
NEW ENGLAND



MINNEHAHA CREEK  
WATERSHED DISTRICT

**M**  
UNIVERSITY  
OF MINNESOTA



# Goals of stakeholder participation

Improve:

- Quality
- Legitimacy
- Capacity of environmental assessment and decisions



# Convene community leaders and a broad list of stakeholders

Benchmarks for Success,  
& Key Inputs...



...Convening...

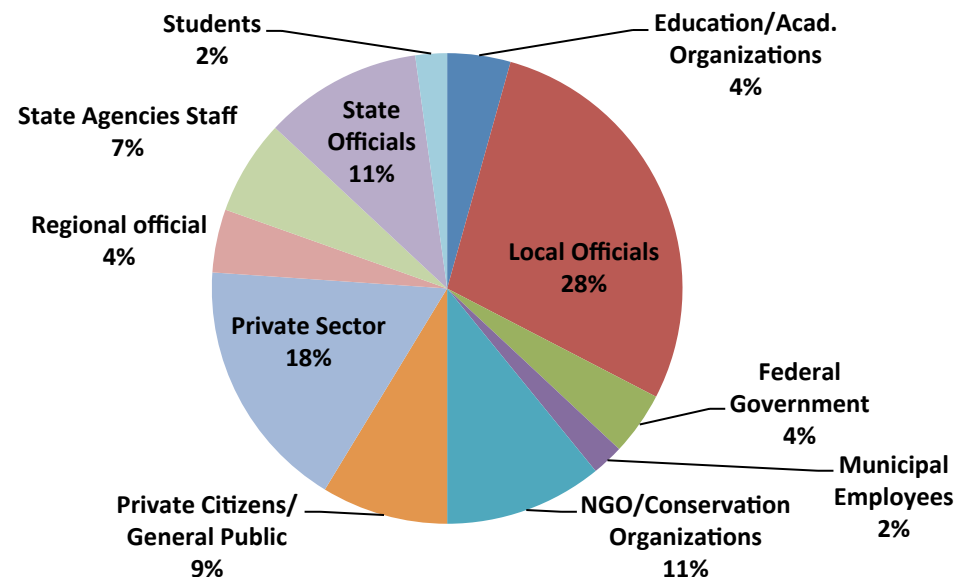


...To Achieve desired  
Outcomes

• **Convened a broad cross-section of stakeholders that included representatives of:**

- Education/Academic Organizations
- Local Officials
- Federal Government
- Municipal Employees
- NGO/Conservation Orgs.
- Private Citizens/ Public
- Regional official
- State Agencies Staff
- State Officials
- Students

## Who was present?



• **Input Example: Clear Ground-Rules**  
with all sessions open to the media/public...high transparency

## Data Input

### Historical Climatic Data

Precipitation  
Evapotranspiration

### Precipitation Scenarios

Global Circulation Models  
Down-Scaling

### Current Land Characteristics

Soils,  
Water Bodies  
Parks /Protected Land

### Projected Land Characteristics

Impervious Surfaces  
Green Infrastructure

### Pipe Configuration

Minneapolis (Hiawatha basin)  
Victoria



## Modeling

### Run-off / Peak Flow Calculations

EPA-SWMM  
Calibrated 2005

## Outputs

### Projected Precipitation Amounts

Optimistic - Pessimistic

### System Components Adequacy

Current  
Projected

### Projected Pipe Sizing

### Impact of Green Infrastructure

Extent of Mitigation

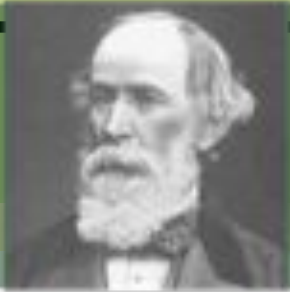
### Projected Cost Impacts

# Risk & Uncertainty



1/14



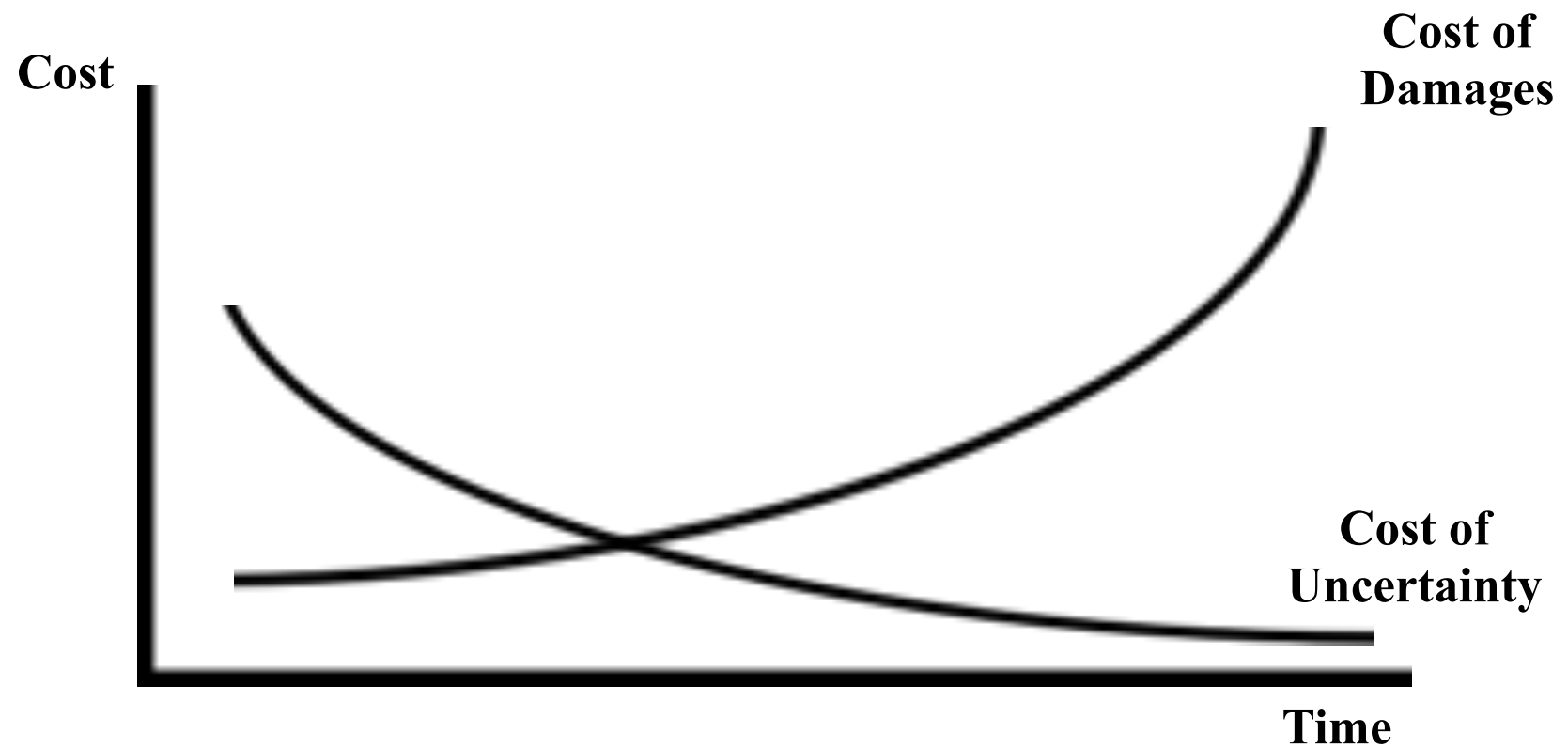


# Thomas Mulvaney & Svante Arrhenius



	Rainfall/Runoff Modeling	Adaptation of stormwater systems
Original formulation	Mulvaney, 1851	Arrhenius, 1896
Theory development 70-80 yrs later	Green-Ampt, Sherman, Yarnell	1st, 2nd gen. General Circulation Models
State of the art today	Sophisticated models, but uncertainty persists	Sophisticated models, but uncertainty persists
Design based thereon?	Yes, to best-available knowledge, with safety margin	No

# Adapt now or wait?





# Was the past *really* certain?

- "...too little data is available on the factors influencing the rainfall-runoff relationship to expect exact solutions."

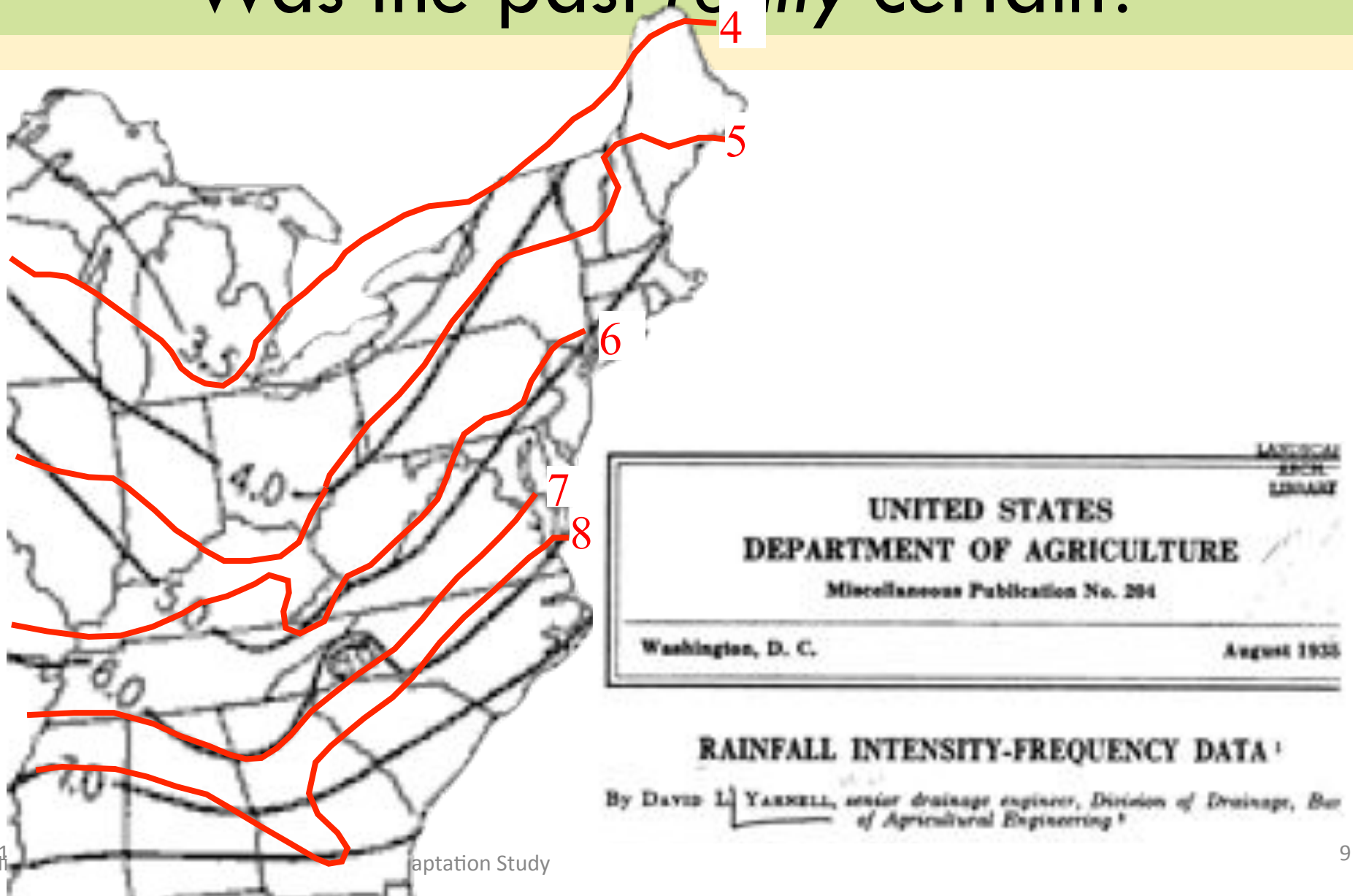
*MN DoT Drainage manual, 2000*

- "...Recognizing the high degree of error or uncertainty inherent in many aspects of stormwater modeling...Generally, the goal of stormwater modeling is to provide a reasonable prediction of the way a system will respond to a given set of conditions. "

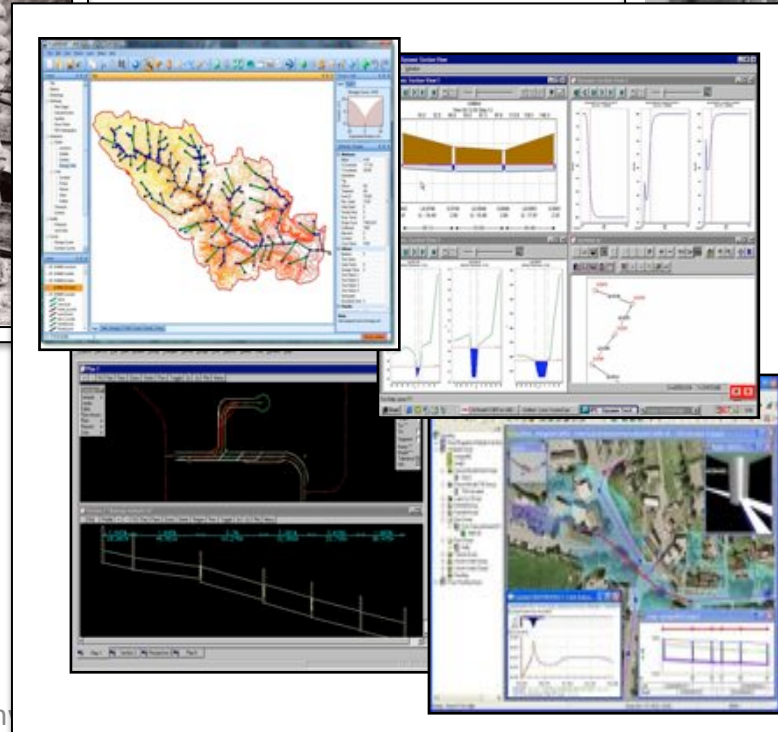
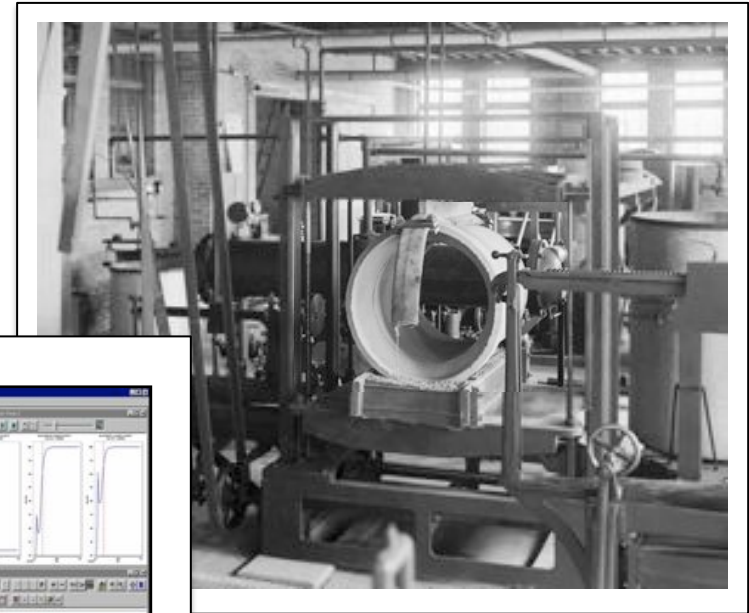
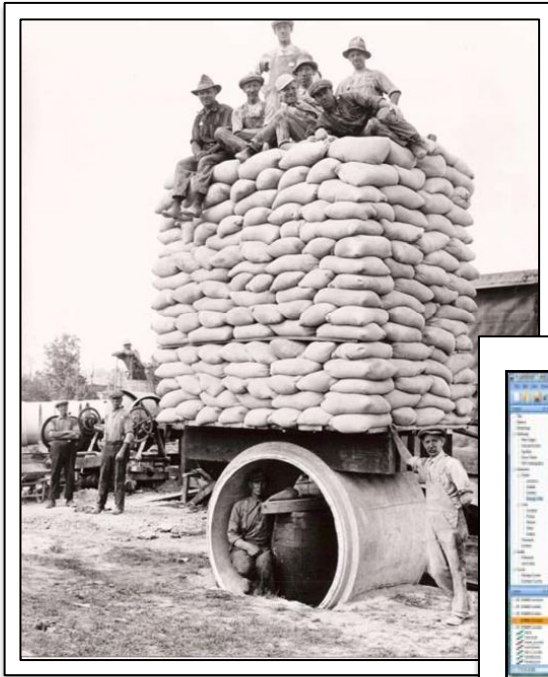
*MN Stormwater Manual, 2006*



# Was the past *really* certain?

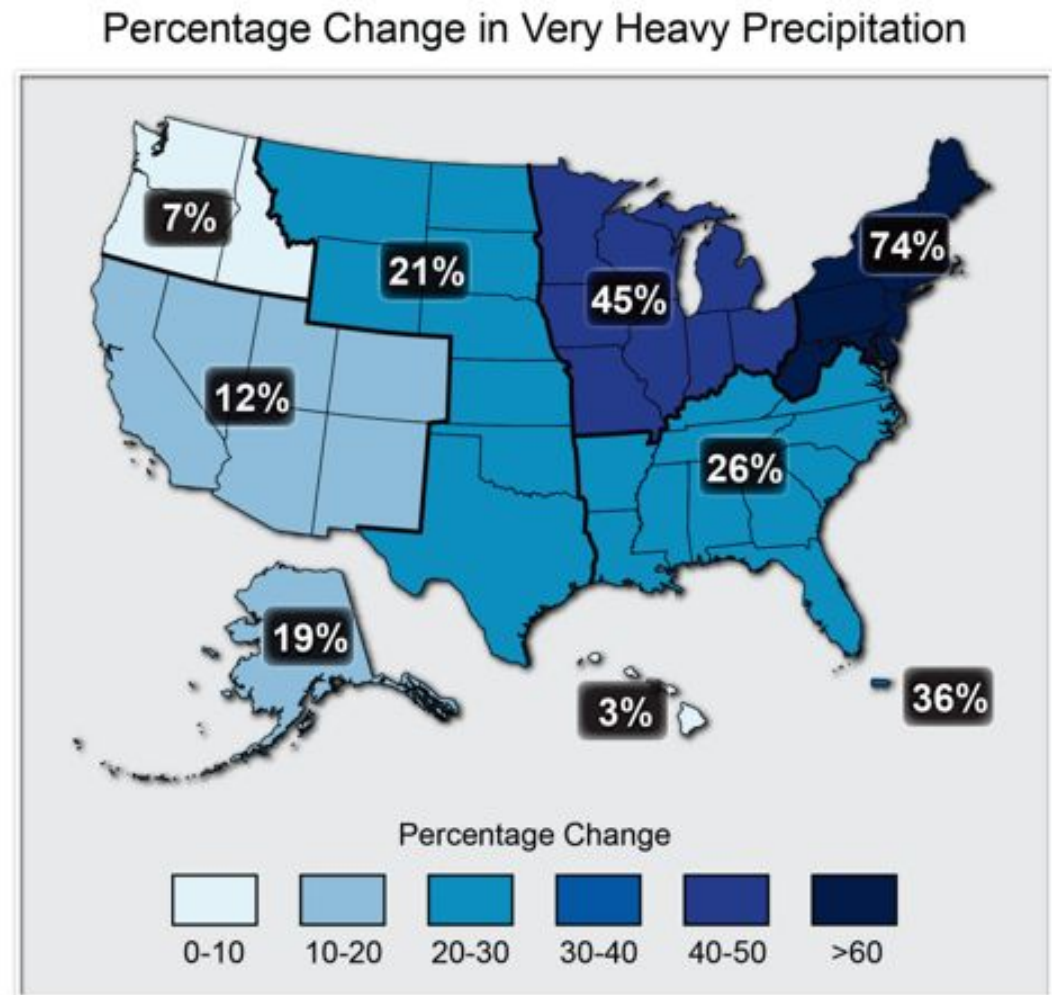


# Design methods change...



# Was the past *really* stationary?

- Very heavy precipitation (heaviest of 1% of all events)
- Percentage increase in from 1958-2007



# Cli-Chg can inform design specs

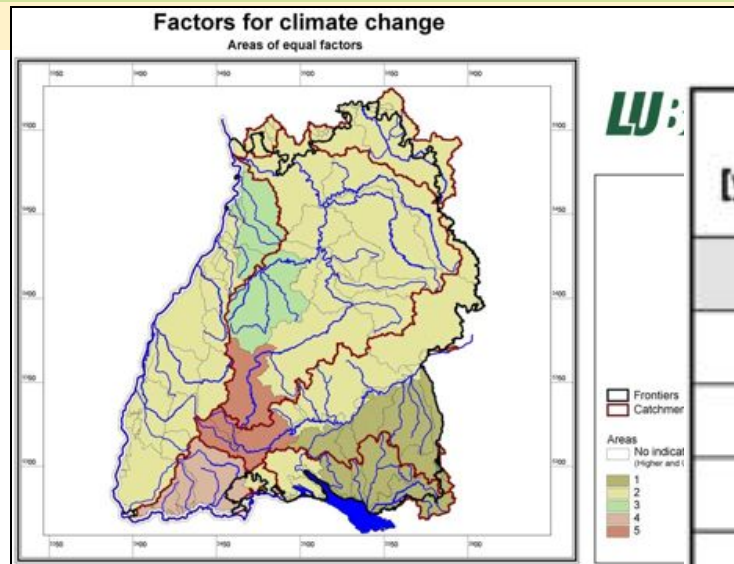


Fig. 8: Areas in Baden-Württemberg with uniform climate change factors  $f_{T,K}$

LU:

T [years]	Factors for climate change $f_{T,K}$				
	1	2	3	4	5
2	1,25	1,50	1,75	1,50	1,75
5	1,24	1,45	1,65	1,45	1,67
10	1,23	1,40	1,55	1,43	1,60
20	1,21	1,33	1,42	1,40	1,50
50	1,18	1,23	1,25	1,31	1,35
100	1,15	1,15	1,15	1,25	1,25
200	1,12	1,08	1,07	1,18	1,15
500	1,06	1,03	1,00	1,08	1,05
1000	1,00	1,00	1,00	1,00	1,00

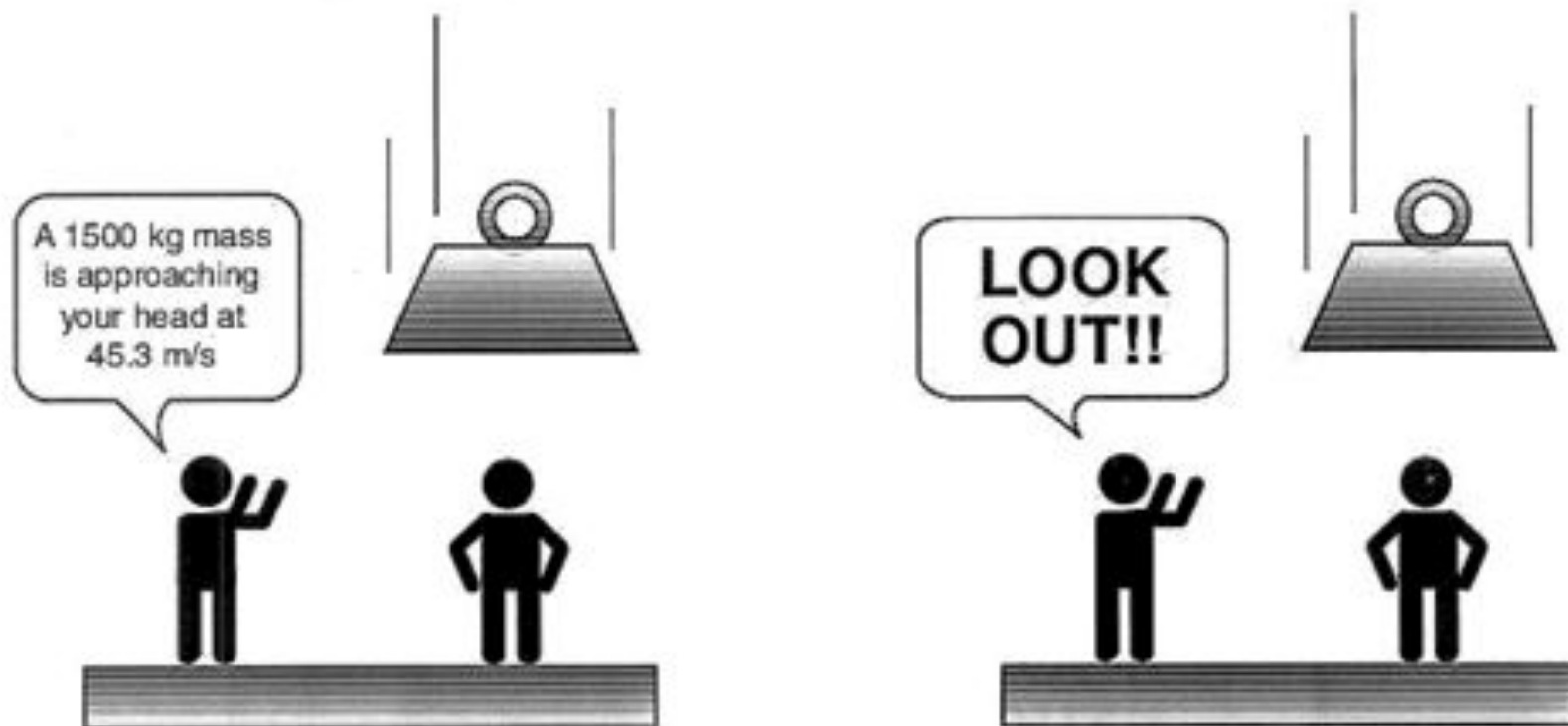
Remark: Factor is equal 1.0 for annualities  $T > 1000a$

Fig. 9: Climate change factors  $f_{T,K}$  to determine the design flood for the areas c river catchments in Baden-Württemberg



# Risk & Uncertainty

Researchers vs. practitioners

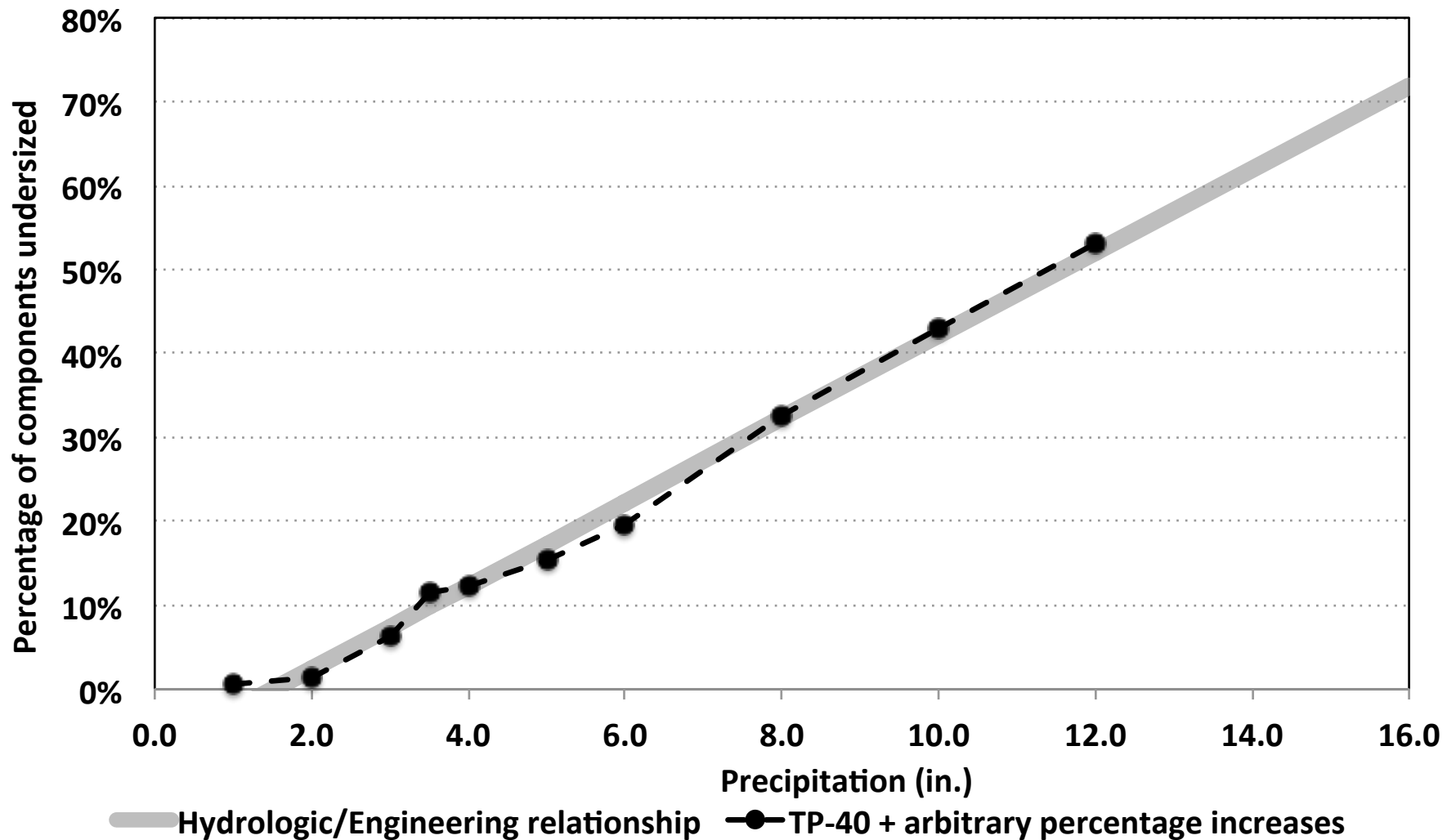


# Climate modeling results: Current and Future

Return period (years)		Recent climate	mid-21st cent. Optimistic	mid-21st cent. Moderate	mid-21st cent. Pessimistic
“Design Storm”	2.5	2.5	2.84	3.3	6.86
	5	3.17	3.47	4.11	8.4
	7.5	3.57	3.88	4.66	9.39
	10	3.86	4.19	6.56	10.13
	25	4.84	5.28	6.74	12.75
	50	5.67	6.22	8.31	15.03
	75	6.2	6.82	9.39	16.5
	100	6.59	7.27	10.23	17.59

# Risk & uncertainty

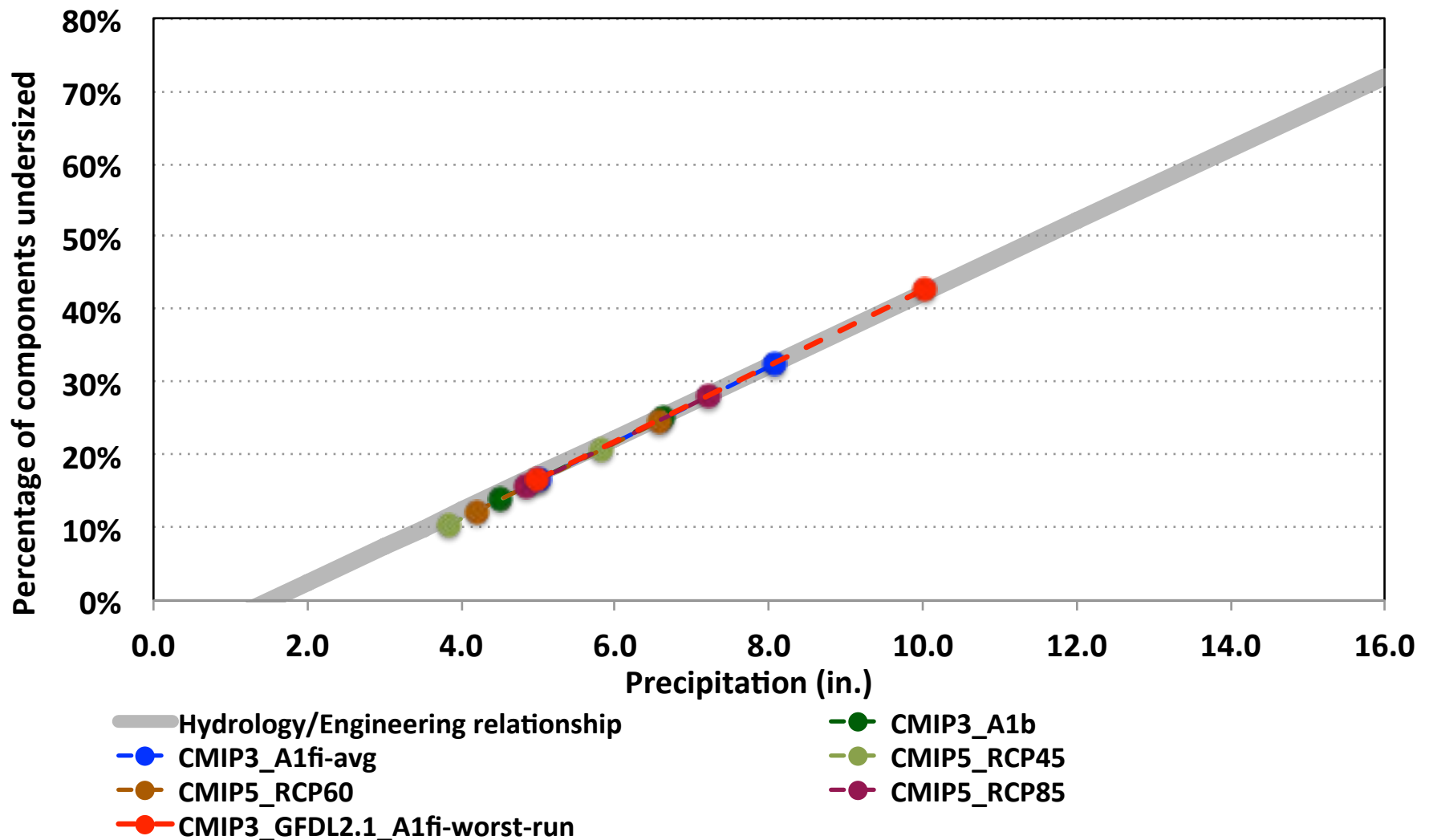
Percentage of undersized components and precipitation





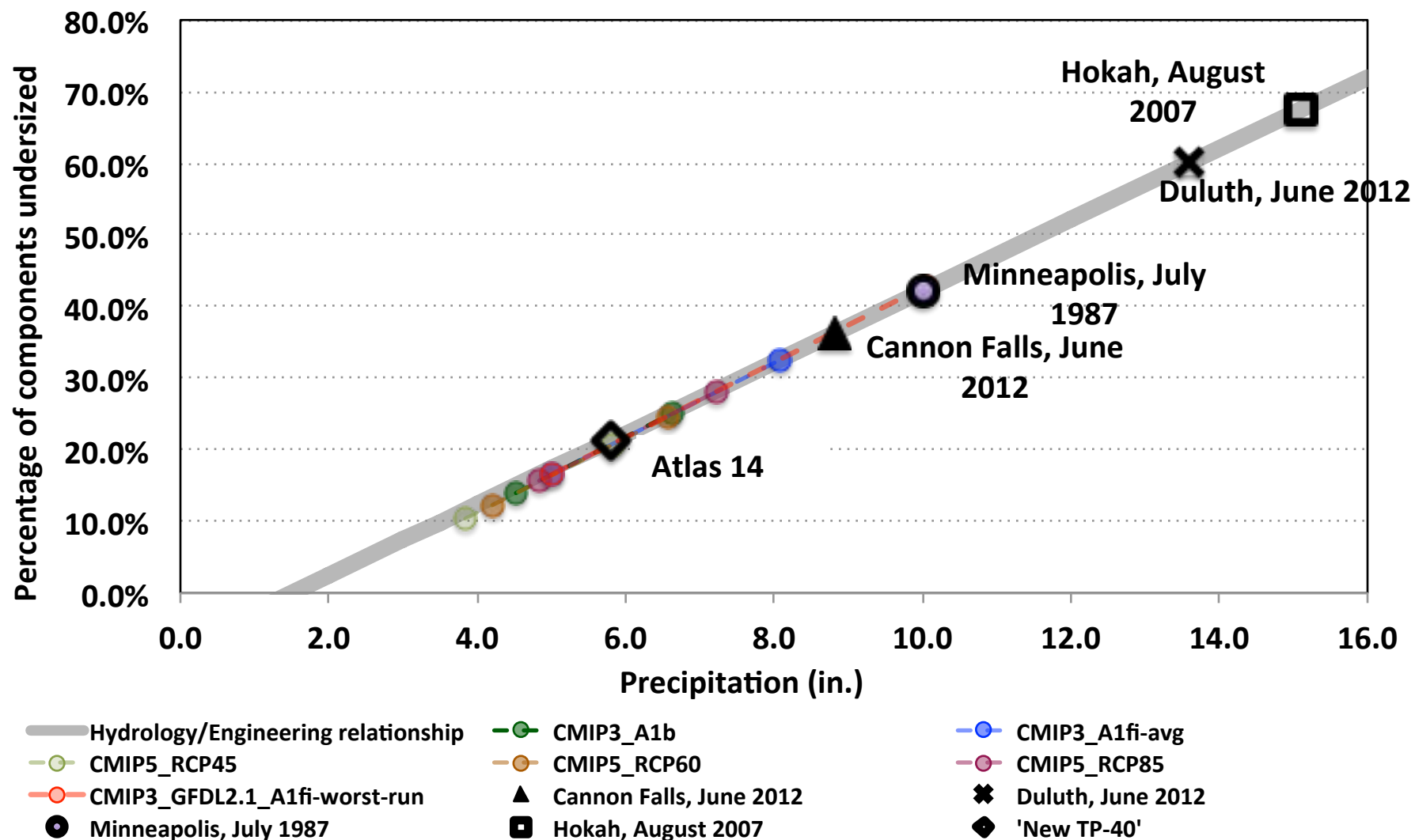
# Risk & uncertainty

Percentage undersized components and precipitation:  
Mid-21st cent., "most-likely" estimators & +95% confidence limits



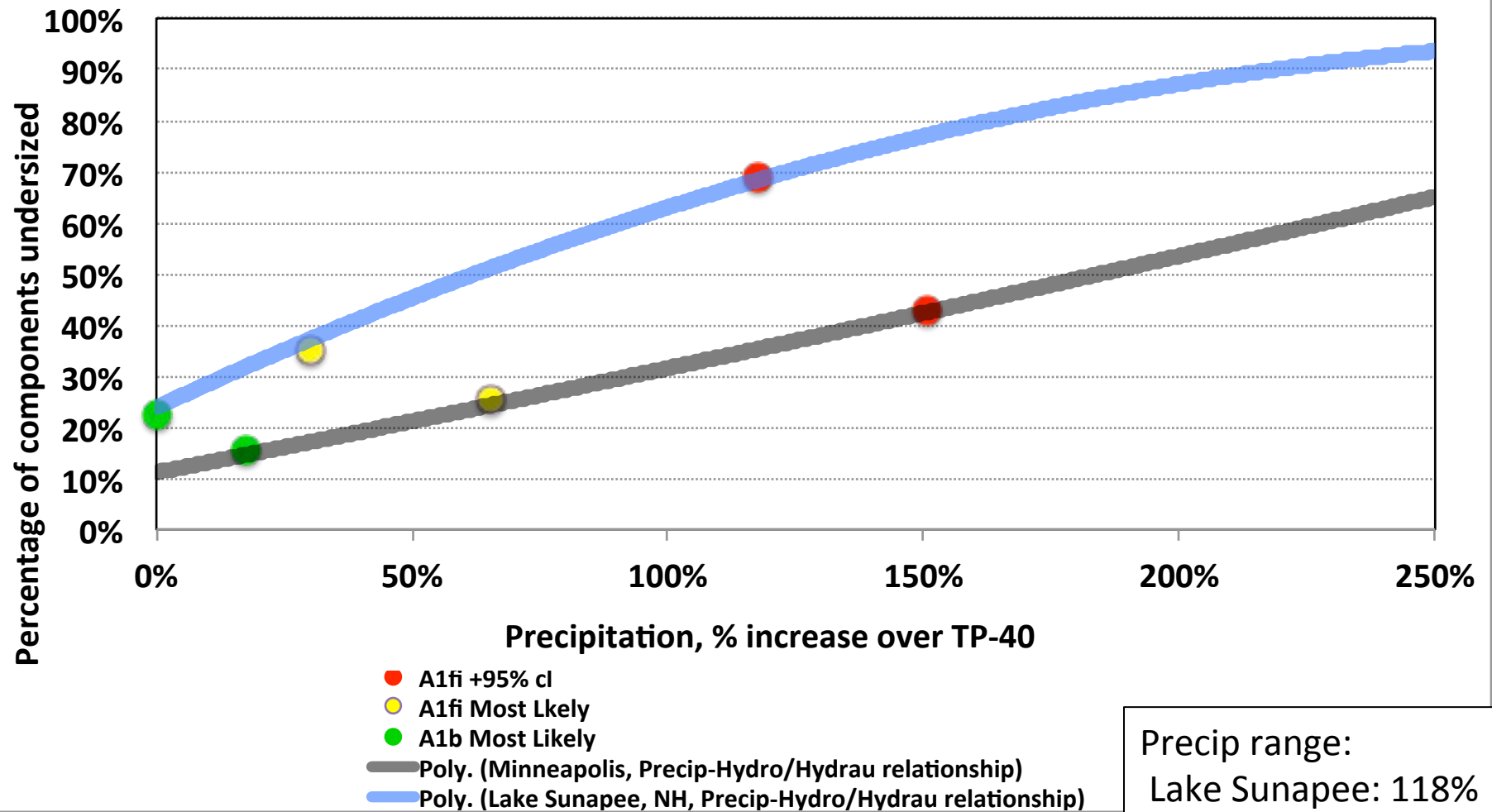
# Risk & uncertainty

Percentage undersized components and precipitation:  
Recent extreme events in the region, & "new TP-40"



## Risk & uncertainty

Percentage of undersized components and precipitation



Precip range:  
Lake Sunapee: 118%  
Minneapolis: 157%

- Minneapolis hydrologic model calibration study, used since 2004 to design the City's stormwater systems

<i>Peak flow (Qp), actual from flow-gauge vs. XPSWMM model</i>				
Site	Calibration storm (in.)	Actual vs calibrated model	Actual vs uncalibrated	
		Runoff	Runoff	
22nd_ & Aldrich	2.20	-38%	1%	
22nd_ & Aldrich	2.05	-41%	-11%	
14th_ & park	2.20	50%	50%	
14th_ & park	2.05	38%	38%	
Parade Stadium	2.20	-72%	-98%	
Parade Stadium	2.05	-15%	-81%	
61st and Lyndale	2.20	71%	108%	
61st and Lyndale	2.05	189%	216%	
58th and Portland	2.20	75%	172%	
58th and Portland	2.05	24%	24%	
mean		28.3%	41.9%	
range		261.2%	313.9%	
std_dev		75.7%	100.7%	

# Risk & Uncertainty



**ScienceDaily®**  
Your source for the latest research news

News Articles Videos Images Books  
Health & Medicine Mind & Brain Plants & Animals Earth & Climate Space & Time Matter & Energy

---

**Science News** — from universities, journals, and other research organizations

---

**Paralysis by Analysis Should Not Delay Decisions On Climate Change, Experts Urge**

Nov. 27, 2012 — Uncertainty about how much the climate is changing is not a reason to delay preparing for the harmful impacts of climate change, says Professor Jim Hall of the Environmental Change Institute at the University of Oxford and colleagues at the Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research, writing in *Nature Climate Change*.

**Share This:**

The costs of adapting to climate change, sea-level and flooding include the upfront expenses of upgrading infrastructure, installing early-warning systems, and effective organisations, as well as the costs of reducing risk, such as not building on flood plains.

**Related Topics**

- Earth & Climate**
  - ▶ Climate
  - ▶ Global Warming
  - ▶ Environmental Issues
- Science & Society**
  - ▶ Environmental Policies
  - ▶ Resource Shortage
  - ▶ Ocean Policy

**Articles**

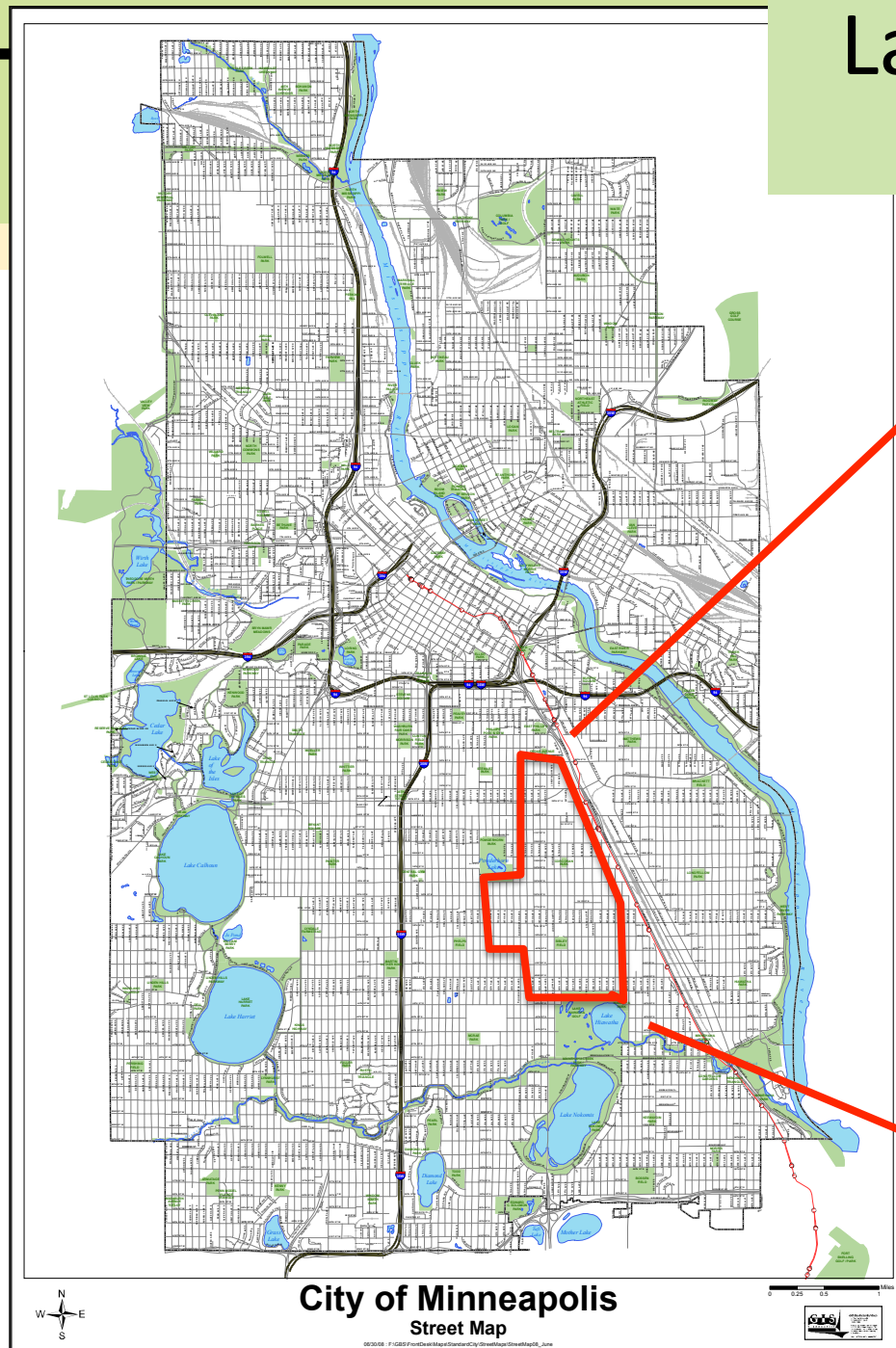
- ▶ Consensus of scientists regarding global warming
- ▶ Scientific opinion on climate change
- ▶ Instrumental temperature record
- ▶ Climate model
- ▶ Climate
- ▶ Environmental impact assessment

## Hiawatha : System Flood Volumes

Precip. Scenario (in)	Flood Volume (MG)		
	Total	Street Storage	Over-curb
3.93	2.46	1.61	0.86
4.15	2.92	1.80	1.12
4.77	3.95	2.30	1.66
5.66	5.82	3.07	2.75
6.56	10.05	3.70	6.34
8.07	20.02	5.41	14.61
10.1	40.05	5.94	34.11



# Lake Hiawatha pipeshed, Minneapolis, MN





### 3.18-in Storm

Pipe Capacity

Adequate

Undersized





**Recent Storms**

**3.9"**



**Moderate Projection**

**6.6"**



**Pessimistic Projection**

**10.1"**



**City of Minneapolis – Lake Hiawatha Pipe-shed**





**Bancroft Meadows Flood Basin**  
**(Bloomington and 42<sup>nd</sup>)**

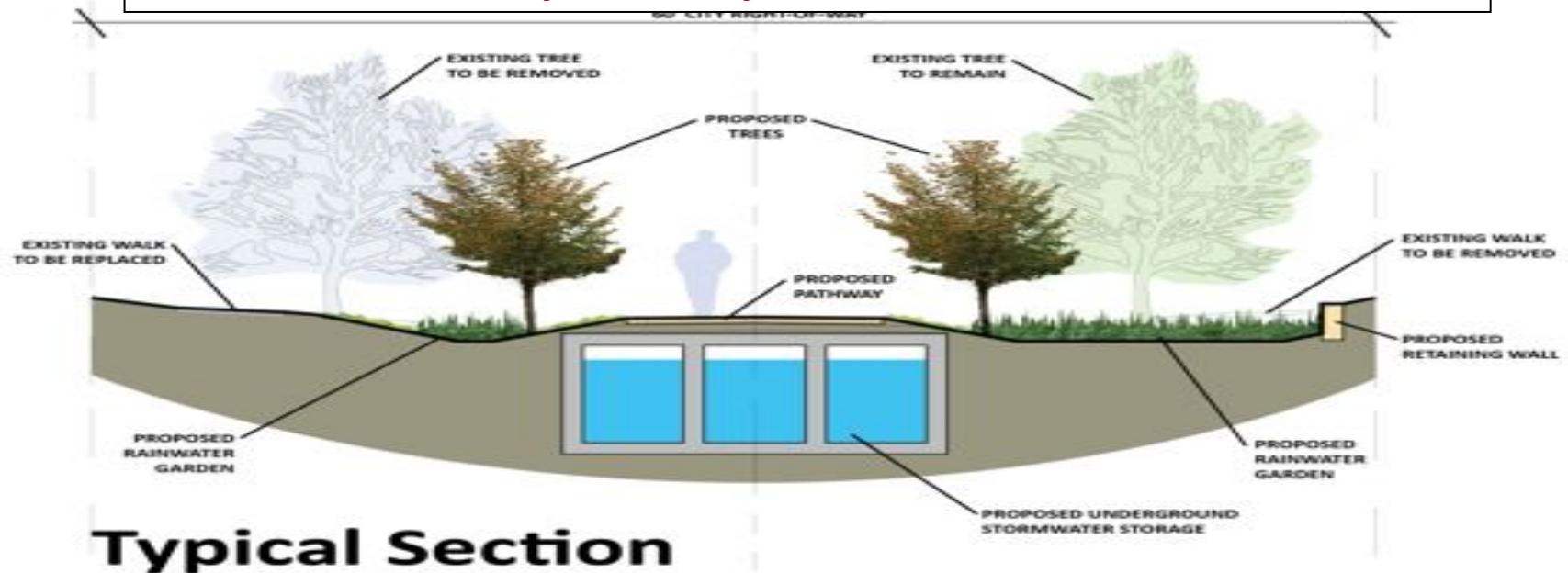
**Built 1989**

**Built 1989**





## 37<sup>th</sup> Avenue Greenway Flood Project Built 2011










# Costs for Adaptation – City of Mpls (Prelim.)

10-yr Event	Flood Volume (over curb)	Increase Undersized Pipes to Eliminate Over- Curb Flooding		Dry Basin Storage	Under-ground Storage	50% LID - Impact on Peak Flow*
	MG	Ft of Pipe	Cost	Cost	Cost	% Red
3.9"	2.92	3,439	\$6.5M	\$0	\$0	-39%
6.6"	6.34	20,405	\$38.8M	\$151K	\$9.8M	-38%
10.1"	34.11	---	---	\$715K	\$46.5M	-28%

\*LID does not provide effective flood control during large storm events

# Impact Vs. Feasibility Grid

FEASIBILITY	high			  
	medium			
	low			
		low	medium	high
		IMPACT		



# Adaptation options & costs

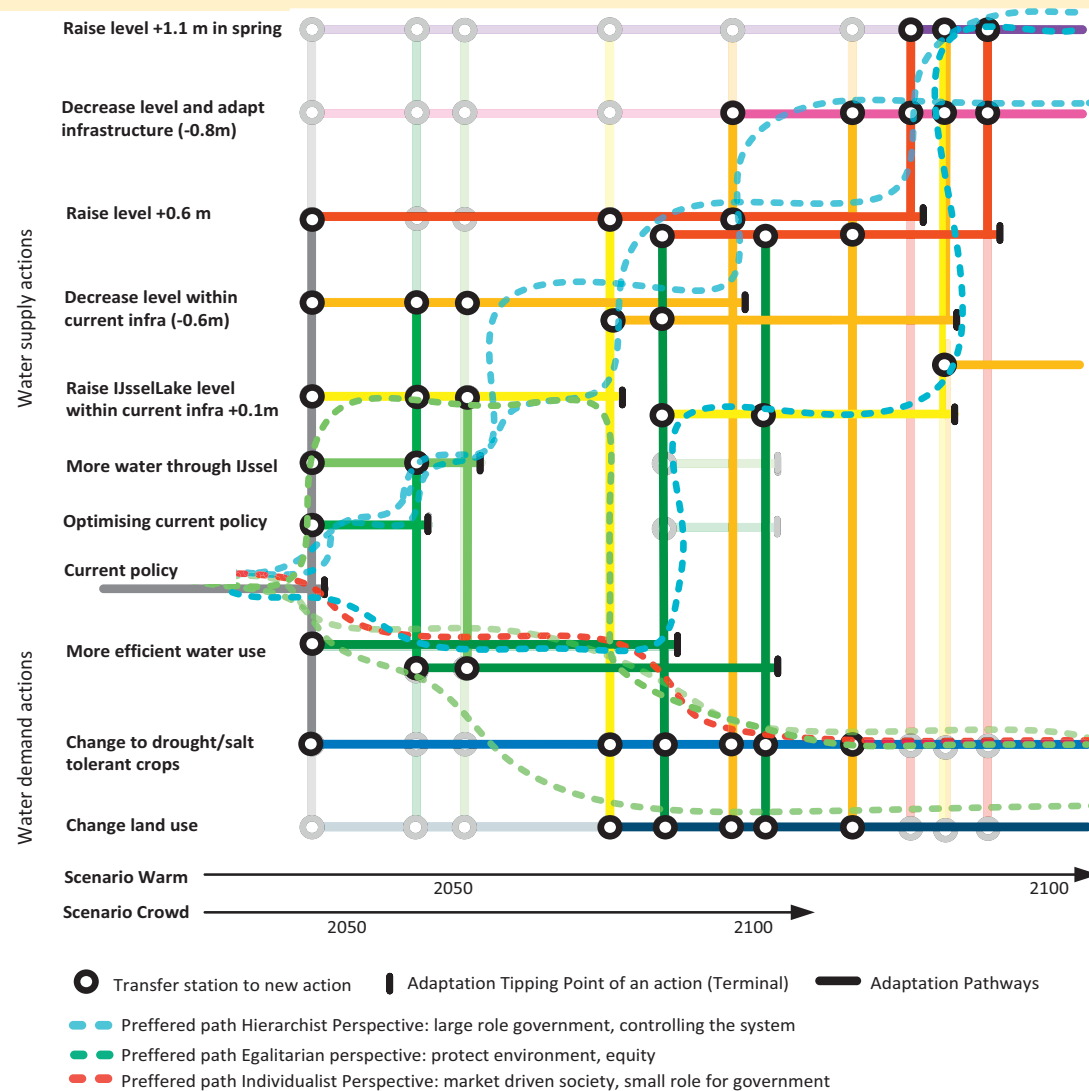





Fig. 7. Adaptation pathways map with preferred pathways for three different perspectives.



# Let's adapt our forebears' common sense



You can cut  
installation costs  
...  lay  
pipe faster...   
speed completion  
of entire job... 



## Citations

- Haasnoot M, Walker WE, ter Maat J, *Global Environmental Change* 2013,
- Hennegriff W, Kolokotronis V, Weber H, Bartels H. 2006. *A - Abwasser Abfall (Sewer Waste)* 53:8, 1
- The Mathworks Inc. Fuzzy Logic Toolbox User's Guide. P. 1-7  
[http://www.mathworks.com/help/pdf\\_doc/fuzzy/fuzzy.pdf](http://www.mathworks.com/help/pdf_doc/fuzzy/fuzzy.pdf)
- NCADAC. 2013. Chapter 2, Figure 2.16. Draft National Climate Assessment  
<http://ncadac.globalchange.gov/>
- Preston BL, Yuen EJ. 2010. *Mitig Adapt Strateg Glob Change* 32
- Wilby RL. 2007. *BUILT ENVIRONMENT* 33:1, 31
- Wilby RL, Vaughan K. 2010. *Water and environment journal* 2010, 1